

**Forest Land-Hingoli**

**Diversion of 121.83 ha. Forest land in favour of Department of Atomic Energy, Government of India for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO)**

**Government of Maharashtra**

**Revenue and Forest Department**

**Government Order No.FLD-2018/C.R.222/F-10**

Mantralaya, Mumbai 400032.

Date: 21.09.2022

**Reference:**

- 1) Additional Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Letter No. Desk-17/NC/I/ID-707/18-19, dt.25.06.2018
- 2) Revenue & Forest Department, Government of Maharashtra Letter No. FLD-2018/C.R.222/F-10, dt.09.08.2018
- 3) Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi Letter No. 8-60/2018-FC, dt.24.09.2018
- 4) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Letter No. Desk-17/NC/RS-1/ID-12563/1577/19-20, dt.31.12.2019,  
Desk-17/NC/1/ID-12563/652/2020-21, dt.21.11.2020
- 5) Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi Letter No. 8-60/2018-FC, dt.24.11.2021
- 6) Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Letter No. Desk-17/Nodal/Aurangabad/I.D.12563/317/2022-23, dt.09.05.2022

**Order:-**

Whereas, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur, vide letter under reference No.1 has submitted a proposal for diversion of 121.83 ha. Forest land in favour of Administrative Officer, Department of Atomic Energy (DCS & EM), Government of India for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) to the Government of Maharashtra;

AND whereas, the Government of Maharashtra has submitted above proposal to MoEF&CC, Govt. of India vide letter under reference No.2,

AND whereas, the MoEF&CC, Govt. of India after due consideration, vide letter under reference No.3, accorded 'In-Principle' approval to divert the 121.83 ha. Forest Land for the above project under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. The said approval is subject to fulfillment of certain conditions by the User Agency;

AND whereas, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur vide letters under reference No.4 has submitted compliance of those conditions in 'In-Principle' approval letter to the MoEF&CC, Government of India;

AND whereas, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi, vide under reference no. 5 accorded 'Final approval' to divert the 121.83 ha. Forest Land under section 2 of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980;

AND whereas, the Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur vide letter under reference No.6 has requested State Government to issue diversion order in the matter;

NOW, therefore, Government of Maharashtra hereby directs that the Forest Area of 121.83 ha. consisting of Reserved Forest land more specifically described in the proposal submitted vide letter under reference No. 1 and as per details given in the Schedule given below, be diverted to the User Agency, i.e. Administrative Officer, Department of Atomic Energy (DCS & EM), Government of India for Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory in India (LIGO) in Hingoli District.

The diversion shall be effected subject to the terms and conditions mentioned in the letters dt.24.09.2018 and dated 24.11.2021 of MoEF&CC, New Delhi. This approval for diversion of forest land is also subject to compliance of following conditions by the User Agency-

1. The User Agency shall comply with all the conditions stipulated in the letters dt.24.09.2018 and dated 24.11.2021 of MoEF&CC, New Delhi, referred above. The Conservator of Forests (T), Aurangabad shall ensure the strict compliance of the conditions by the User Agency and shall furnish the report in this regard to Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests and Nodal Officer, Maharashtra State, Nagpur from time to time.
2. Non-compliance of any of the conditions mentioned in MoEF&CC letters dt.24.09.2018 and dated 24.11.2021, in this order and Rules & Guidelines made / issued under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, shall amount to violation of Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and action would be taken accordingly.
3. In case of non-compliance of any of the above conditions, the Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Aurangabad shall report through the State Government to the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, Nagpur as per procedure laid down in guidelines under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980.

#### SCHEDULE

Item of Works	District / Tahsil	Village	Compt. No.	Gut No.	Area (ha.)	Legal Status
Building area (14940 sq. m.)	Hingoli / Aundha (Nagnath)	Dudhala	620, 621, 621 A	435, 434, 406, 407, 391	86.97	Reserved Forest
Road (109105 sq.m)						
Beam Tube		Anjanwada	615 C, 616	42	28.86	

(32885 sq. m)						
Safety Zone (243350 sq.m)		Nandgaon	625 C	65,75	4.15	
Fencing area (7340 sq.m)						
Tree plantation and Greenary area as per environmental clearance norms.		Sawali (B)	623	294	1.85	
<b>Total Forest Area (ha.)</b>					<b>121.83</b>	

This Government Order is available on Government of Maharashtra's website [www.maharashtra.gov.in](http://www.maharashtra.gov.in) with Reference No. 202209211209133019. This order has been signed digitally.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Maharashtra.

**(Ganesh Jadhao)**

**Under Secretary to the Government of Maharashtra**

**Copy:**

1. Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, New Delhi.
2. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Maharashtra State, Nagpur.
3. Regional Officer (Central), Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, Nagpur.
4. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & CEO, Maha-CAMPA, Nagpur.
5. Addl. Principal Chief Conservator of Forests & Nodal Officer, Nagpur.
6. Additional Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (Conservation), Nagpur.
7. Divisional Commissioner, Aurangabad
8. Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Aurangabad
9. Collector, Hingoli
10. Chief Executive Officer, Zilha Parishad, Hingoli
11. Deputy Conservator of Forests (T), Hingoli

12. Administrative Officer, Department of Atomic Energy (DCS & EM),  
Government of India
13. Select File.

I. Collector- Hingoli and Chief Executive Officer, Zilha Parishad, Hingoli are hereby directed to forward the copy of this order to concerned Heads of Local Bodies, Panchayats, Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government and they shall also ensure the display of this order on their notice board as well as on the notice board of local self-government bodies for the information of general public.

II. Administrative Officer, Department of Atomic Energy (DCS & EM), Government of India is hereby directed to publish the entire order of forest clearances granted in verbatim along with the details of Survey No., Gut No., area and legal status of each Survey, Gut No. etc. and along with the conditions and safe guards imposed by the Central Government while granting forest clearances in two widely circulated daily newspapers, one in vernacular language and other in English language. Copy of the Newspapers be submitted to Chief Conservator of Forests (T), Hingoli, Deputy Conservator of Forests (T), Hingoli.

III. Heads of Local Bodies, Panchayats and Municipal Bodies in addition to the relevant offices of the Government are hereby directed to display the same on their notice board for 30 days from the date of receipt for the information of general public.